

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows, substituting any amended claim(s) for the corresponding  
pending claim(s):

1. (Unchanged) A network for transporting data from an originating port to a  
destination port comprising:  
at least one controller, each controller including:  
means for receiving data in time division multiplex (TDM) format from an  
originating port, and  
means for mapping the TDM data into fixed-length packets, wherein the TDM  
data is written into a predetermined packet slot permanently assigned to the originating port;  
and  
a switching element connected to the one or more controllers including:  
means for receiving the packets from the one or more controllers, and  
means for separately switching the data in each packet slot received from the  
controllers into a packet slot preassigned to the destination port.

1           2.   (Unchanged) The network according to claim 1, further comprising a call server  
2 connected to the switching element, including:

3                   means for determining the destination port associated with the data in each incoming  
4 packet slot based on a message transmitted from the controller to the switching element to the call  
5 server.

1           3.   (Unchanged) The network according to claim 2, wherein the call server further  
2 comprises means for instructing the switching elements to switch the data in the packet slot into the  
3 packet slot corresponding to the destination port.

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1           4.   (Unchanged) A non-blocking network for transporting packet data from an  
2 originating port to a destination port, including:

3                   at least one controller connected to plural ports, wherein each controller includes an  
4 interface to receive time division multiplex (TDM) data from an originating port and a state machine  
5 to write the TDM data into a packet slot assigned to the originating port; and

6                   a switching element including an interface to receive packet data from the one or  
7 more controllers and a switching circuit to switch the TDM data in the packet slot assigned to the  
8 originating port into an outgoing packet slot assigned to the destination port.

1           5.     (Unchanged) A network according to claim 4, further comprising a call server to  
2 determine the identity of the destination port.

1           6.     (Unchanged) A network according to claim 5, wherein the call server further includes  
2 a look-up table to identify the packet slot corresponding to the destination port.

1           7.     (Unchanged) A network according to claim 6, wherein the call server further includes  
2 an input/output controller to send a message to the switching element instructing the switching  
3 element to switch the TDM data in the packet slot assigned to the originating port into the packet slot  
4 assigned to the destination port.

1           8.     (Unchanged) A node controller connected to plural access controllers, including:  
2 means for receiving packet data from the plural access controllers, and  
3 means for separately switching each slot in the packet data received from the plural  
4 access controllers into a packet slot preassigned to the destination port.

1           9.     (Unchanged) A switching element connected to one or more controllers and a call  
2 server, including:

3                     an interface to receive incoming ATM cells from the one or more controllers;  
4                     a microprocessor to receive octet switching directions from the call server on how to  
5 individually switch each octet in the incoming ATM cells into outgoing ATM cells; and  
6                     a time switch processor to switch each octet in the incoming ATM cells into outgoing  
7 ATM cells in response to the octet switching directions.

B1 1           10.   (Unchanged) A switching element according to claim 9, further comprising:  
2                     a multiplexer to multiplex the incoming ATM cells into a single stream of ATM cells;  
3 and  
4                     a de-multiplexer to de-multiplex the outgoing ATM cells into plural streams of ATM  
5 cells.

1           11.   (Unchanged) A switching element according to claim 9, wherein the microprocessor  
2 further includes an address generator to generate read addresses in response to the octet switching  
3 directions from the call server.

1           12.   (Unchanged) A switching element according to claim 9, the time switch processor  
2 further comprising:  
3               a buffer; and  
4               a time switch controller to sequentially write each octet in the incoming ATM cells  
5 into the buffer and for reading the octets from the buffer using read addresses supplied by the  
6 microprocessor.

B/ 1           13.   (Unchanged) A method for establishing a switching path between an originating port  
2 and a destination port in a network having a call server and plural controllers, the method comprising  
3 the steps of:  
4               receiving from the plural controllers packets in which data from the originating port  
5 is located in a particular packet slot assigned to the originating port;  
6               receiving a first message from the call server;  
7               switching the data in the packet slot assigned to the originating port into a packet slot  
8 assigned to the destination port in response to the first message from the call server.

1           14.   (Unchanged) The method of claim 13, further comprising the step of:  
2               continuing to switch the data in the packet slot assigned to the originating port into  
3 the packet slot assigned to the destination port until receipt of a second message from the call server.